

A BILL

FOR AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE BETTER PROTECTION OF TRAIN MEN,
AND RAILWAY EMPLOYES, BY BLOCKING FROGS, SWITCHES AND GAURD-
RAILS.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

SECTION 1. All persons, railroad companies or corporations owning or operating roads in
2 this State shall and are hereby required on or before the first day of July, A. D. 1886, to so
3 adjust, fill or block the frogs, switches and guard-rails on their roads, in all yards, division
4 and terminal stations, and wherever switching or transferring of cars is done from one track
5 to another, and where trains are made up, as to prevent the feet of employes or other per-
6 sons from being caught therein.

SEC. 2. Any railroad company or corporation or person owning or operating a railroad in
2 this State, which shall fail to comply with the provisions of this act, or shall fail to keep
3 such switches, tracks or guard-rails blocked, adjusted or filled, shall be held absolutely
4 liable to the party who may be injured by such neglect, in the sum of from \$100 to \$500, or
5 to his heirs if he shall die of the injuries received, with costs of suit and attorneys' fees ;
6 *provided*, that the payment of such penalty shall not be a bar to further prosecution, or
7 release from absolute liability for injury sustained.

SEC. 3. Any agreement or contract which may have been entered into between any rail-
2 road company or person or persons operating a railroad, and an employe, made prior to the
3 injury of such employe, in which such employe agrees to waive his right to recover damages
4 for such injury, is hereby declared null and void.

SEC. 4. This act being deemed of immediate importance, shall take effect and be in
2 force from and after its publication in the Iowa State Register and Des Moines Leader,
3 newspapers published at Des Moines, Iowa.